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AUGUST 1951

EXTENSION SERVICE
Review



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EXTENSION SERVICE
Review

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The Cover This Month

• The cover this month is from a PMA photograph by Harman. It seems to express so well the responsibility of the farmer for growing the crops needed for defense mobilization in spite of weather, floods, and short labor supply.

The back cover was designed by REA to call the attention of extension workers to the possibility of expanding the use of electric power as a saver of labor.

Next Month

• At Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., they have an Extension Club. One of the topics always good for an argument is what the county agricultural agent ought to be doing. Some were irked by a disposition to spend more time on young adults, housing, and health at the expense of helping the farmer with his business problems. Others defended this tendency and said that it was not farm production but the people who were at the core of the problem and ought to be getting the time and effort. So they decided to debate the issue publicly, and four specialists presented four viewpoints. They wrote out the question "From Our Viewpoint as Extension Specialists, What is the Job of the County Agricultural Agent?"

• Returning from a field trip to New Hampshire, Max Hinds, Federal economist, told the editor of an interesting RMA project in New Hampshire. The article, "Small Scale Milk Pasteurization Is Possible" is the result.

Helen Horst, home demonstration agent in Oregon, has worked out what she feels is a good way of using press and radio to carry on the home demonstration program in the county.

• Some of the reports given at the last meeting of the Agricultural Agents' Association were too good to be buried in the proceedings but too long to be put into the REVIEW. Compromising on the issue, Dwight Babbitt wrote a shortened version of the report on RMA, printed last month; and S. C. Bohanan will give the high points on program planning next month.

What the Extension Home Program Means to Me, My Family, and My Community

A talk given by Mrs. Jonas Jacobson, Kandiyohi County, Minn., at Kandiyohi County's Home Demonstration Week Program, on May 4, 1951

THE TELEPHONE rings, and as I answer it I hear this greeting:

"Our home extension group will meet at Mrs. Blank's on Thursday afternoon at 1 o'clock." This is a greeting that I have been receiving at regular intervals for the past 5 years. It is a greeting that I am always happy to receive because I know that something good is in store at this meeting.

What has the extension home program meant to me, my family, and my community? Let me tell you first what it has meant to me.

It has made available a new source of information about things pertaining to my job as a homemaker. It is much more satisfactory in this way to get information than through books or magazines because we actually see and do. Working in groups is a pleasant way of combining business with pleasure. We know the information is reliable because it has been worked out by experts. I have made personal use of much of this information. Last year we remodeled our home, and the first project lessons we had on home building and remodeling were of great help to us in our planning.

Home demonstration work has shown me new ways to do some things, better ways to do other things, and how to do some things I didn't know how to do at all before. I think of the lessons in furniture refinishing, in upholstering, and the new draperies I learned how to make from the lesson on window treatment. Then there are the large variety of salads and breads we learned how to make this past year. I know my family is being served a larger variety of these foods than they were before.

This extension program has stimulated my thinking as to how to

improve my homemaking efforts, and it seems as though I can't do anything around the house any more without giving it some special thought. Is the furniture arranged to the best advantage? Are the pictures hung correctly? Do the colors used in decorating harmonize, and are they in good taste? How can I improve this, or where can I improve that? One day when I was setting the table in rather a hurry it even occurred to me that the knives weren't being placed with the blades turned in the right direction.

It has brought me a host of new friends, not only in my neighborhood but throughout the county. Neighbors that I only knew by

name before have now become good friends. These I regard as a priceless possession.

Then what has the extension home program meant to my family? If I have benefited, then it is reasonable to assume that my family has benefited also. If I have been concerned about providing a more comfortable and attractive home, then my family has enjoyed better home living. If I have been interested in preparing and serving a greater variety of food, then my family has enjoyed better meals.

I want to tell you of an incident that happened in our home last winter that shows how closely related the various phases of Extension

(Continued on page 140)

A Picnic in Their Own Back Yard



Right in their own back yard this Missouri family shared their picnic facilities with more than 300 friends. Carolyn Vandiver, a 4-H Club member, worked out detailed plans for the yard as her home beautification project. She was one of nearly 122,000 4-H Club members to work on a similar project.

Increase in FARM BUILDING Expected This Year

J. ROBERT DODGE, Extension Architect, U.S.D.A.

THE PLANS of work indicate that both housing and farm buildings will receive as much, if not more, attention during the 1952 fiscal year as they did this year.

This is not surprising, as it has been estimated that farm construction will be 15 percent greater in 1951 than it was last year, barring all-out mobilization. Actually there is no reason to believe that the present mobilization program will change the general objective of extension work. It will, however, tend to cause workers to redirect the emphasis of their program in many cases.

This does not mean that the importance of extension programs in farm buildings will be less; in fact they will undoubtedly assume an even greater importance as it will be the job of extension workers to help the farmer with the many problems that will arise as a result of the necessity to conserve materials and labor on the one hand and meet the demands of increased production and changes in type of crops on the other. The State plans of work show an awareness of the probable effects of the defense program, and in a great many cases recognition is given to the necessity for a very flexible program in order to be in a position to help farmers with the problems that may arise as the mobilization program develops. Many of these problems may not be readily foreseen at the present time.

Although it is not clear what the future may bring, we are reasonably sure that there are areas of work toward which extension efforts in farm buildings can be di-

rected profitably now. These areas may be classed roughly as follows: 1. Conservation of labor through good planning. 2. Conservation of building materials and equipment. 3. Conservation of crops and proper housing of livestock.

At a recent conference on farm labor in connection with the defense program sponsored by the Extension Service, the relation of farm buildings to the problems presented by labor shortages was brought out and the design of buildings to reduce the time and labor required in producing, handling, storing, and processing farm products and caring for livestock was recognized as a necessary part of the defense program. This is very evident when it is considered that as much as 80 percent of a farmer's time is spent in and around farm buildings in some types of farming such as dairy and poultry enterprises. In the design of buildings, the safety of the workers would also be an essential consideration.

Housing Farm Labor

The importance that housing for farm labor will play in recruiting and holding good farm labor was also brought out and applies both to year-round and transient labor.

The second area in which emphasis will be necessary is that of putting existing buildings in condition to resist deterioration and minimize the need for major repairs and maintenance during the period when both labor and materials may be in short supply.

Proper bracing of structures, making minor repairs which if neg-

lected would call for more extensive repairs later, and protecting structures from termites and rot are important considerations at this time.

Many new buildings will be needed to meet demands for increased production. These will include storage and livestock structures. Every effort should be made to see that these are designed to be built with a minimum of material and labor commensurate with sound construction, and any plans developed for such buildings should be carefully analyzed with this in mind.

Emphasis will also have to be placed on protection of buildings from loss by fire. Farm fires result in an annual loss of some \$100,000,000. This is a serious problem at any time, but now it is doubly so in that the country can ill afford the cost in materials and manpower needed to replace such losses in times such as these. The resulting losses in farm products and livestock are also serious when agricultural products are needed as badly as they are now.

There are many simple precautions that farmers can take to prevent fires, and educational work is of major importance in this field. Some of the principal causes of farm fires are:

1. Defective chimneys and heating systems
2. Sparks on combustible roofs
3. Lightning
4. Spontaneous ignition
5. Careless use of matches and smoking
6. Careless use of gasoline and kerosene
7. Faulty wiring and misuse of electrical appliances

Some of these causes can be overcome only by a conscious effort on the part of the individual farmer. Others require attention to the structure itself or its equipment. Farmers should, therefore, not only be encouraged to develop safe practices but also to build fire safeguards into their structures.

In the event of an all-out war the possibility of sabotage cannot, of course, be ignored; and now is the time to encourage measures

(Continued on page 143)

A County Tour in Pictures

Women in Decatur County, Tenn., took a 90-mile trip through their own county to see what their neighbors were doing in the way of home improvement—all via a color camera in the hands of Home Demonstration Agent Robbie Latta who tells how she did it.



A PICTURE tour of Decatur County, Tenn., for our home demonstration club members appealed to me for various reasons. It would provide demonstration material on home and community improvements and, at the same time, keep the various clubs informed of progress in other communities; and it would provide usable slides for permanent files on improvements and improved practices.

The picture taking was started in June 1950. I kept making pictures until December on visits to every community in Decatur County. The pictures were assembled for use in the January 1951 home demonstration club meetings. They told a story in the form of a tour through the county, showing what farm families, town families, and communities were doing. The tour began in the north end of the county at Sugar Tree and continued southward through the entire county, including 12 communities. It covered about 90 miles.

Club members making the tour by way of pictures saw many home improvements such as redecorated living rooms and dining rooms; refinished floors; rearranged kitchens and new kitchen cabinets; food storage facilities; new bathrooms; the outside of one completely remodeled home, both under construction and after completion; two new homes being built; yard improvement showing walks, good sods, shrubbery well placed in base plantings, and arrangement of perennials; school and church im-

provements; community centers; and many other things.

This tour proved of unusual interest to home demonstration club members because it presented a fairly complete story of what had been done in Decatur County. Many women have already started plans for improving their own kitchens; and many have asked for assistance in planning bathrooms, in rearranging kitchens, and in redecorating living rooms.

There are 20 home demonstration clubs in Decatur County with a membership of more than 400 women. In preparing for the tour, I used a color camera owned by the county extension office. Film was provided by the Decatur County Soil Erosion Association, the Decatur County Fair Association, and the County Council of Home Demonstration Clubs. The tour was made more vivid through use of a 1,000-watt projector.

A 4-H-FFA Building Bee

A BUILDING for youth livestock exhibits at the Evart fair, Oscola County, Mich., was made possible by an old-fashioned barn-raising bee in which more than 100 farmers participated. The fair had one building for all the exhibits of boys and girls. This soon was filled with handicraft and crop exhibits so that the livestock exhibitors, both 4-H and FFA, had to use a tent. This year they will have a pole-type barn measuring 36 by 91 feet.

Working plans for the new livestock barn were drawn by William C. Butts, 4-H Club agent, from a rough sketch by Arthur J. Bell, extension engineer, who was on hand to supervise the construction and work in many good practical building ideas for farmers.

County Agent Abraham P. Snyder

organized the bee. Extension Forester John N. Fields took part. The treating of the old utility poles with a preservative under the direction of a chemical firm representative was of interest to many.

Many community businessmen made cash contributions for the purchase of hardware, nails, and other incidentals. The women of the local farm organizations furnished the food for noonday lunch, and farmers donated the timber from their own wood lots. The Reed City Chamber of Commerce financed the sawing. It took 2 days to erect the building and a great deal of cooperation, of which there seemed to be plenty. The 4-H-FFA Fair Board members are very proud of their new building which will make possible a bigger and better fair this year.

Civil Defense Plans Helped in an *EMERGENCY*

The Community Marches On

NEXT on the Luthersville, Ga., Community Improvement Club's list is a community house, and \$300 has been raised toward its construction.

There is no doubt in the minds of Luthersville citizens that enough money will be raised to make the proposed community center a reality. Neither do strangers doubt after they have heard the story of this town.

Folks there get things done. In 1950, for example, the Community Improvement Club decided a street ought to be paved. A group of men went to Atlanta to see the State highway board. Then some women went to see the board about—and got—paved sidewalks to go along with the new street.

With only 10 telephones in the community in 1947, a campaign was started to get more. A count late in 1950 showed 98.

Twelve new freezer lockers were installed in 1950. Tractors increased from 10 in 1947 to 26 in 1950. Other machinery increased in the same way.

A new dairy was started last year, one in 1949. There are now three in the community, and two carry out artificial breeding programs.

R. C. A. Buchanan, Meriwether County agent, says farmers are turning to diversification, decreasing acreage in peach trees and row crops and increasing Ladino clover and fescue pastures.

All three churches in the community are represented in the improvement club. Mrs. Roy W. Hardy, 1950 president of the community group, pointed out that the community is too small for everybody to belong to a great number of organizations, so they settled on the improvement idea.

The churches cooperated in 1950 to improve the cemetery. It was cleaned off, and flowers and shrubbery planted. Attendance at the three churches since 1947 has almost doubled, Mrs. Hardy said.

THE TORNADO at Olney, Tex., on May 18 destroyed 107 houses, leaving many people homeless. Two people were killed and approximately 30 people hospitalized.

Young County home demonstration clubs had been working on the civil defense program. A defense chairman was functioning in each club and in the county council. Two standard Red Cross first-aid courses were finished on Tuesday before the tornado struck on Friday. One course was taught at Olney, the other at Graham.

The defense chairmen from Tonk Valley, True, Proffitt, Bungler, and Olney home demonstration clubs and council offered their help in first aid but found that the Red Cross and Salvation Army had the situation in hand.

The Olney Home Demonstration Club helped to set up a feeding station. They took their coffee urn and helped serve coffee to the workers.

The Indian Mound, Eliasville, Loving, and Proffitt clubs sent boxes of clothing, sheets, pillowcases, towels, cup towels, wash cloths, and cooking utensils.

The Lake Eddleman and Red Top clubs and county council and the home demonstration agent sent cash donations.

Every club in the county is making a survey of the number of people their community could take

care of in case of an emergency. They now see the need for this information. Some of the Olney Home Demonstration Club members took people into their homes, but the president could not give the exact number.

Lucile King, home demonstration agent, had just completed a demonstration on "What to Do in Case of an Atomic Attack" with the 4-H's the month before. The Olney 4-H girls found the information really did help them as they crawled under their desks and got as far away from the windows as possible. They got only a few scratches. They said they really remembered what they had learned in 4-H.

Taxpayers' Association Sponsors New 4-H Project

The Wyoming Taxpayers' Association is sponsoring a new 4-H project dealing with the workings of government. It is arranged to encourage a study of administrative affairs. The first phase is county government, dealing with the duties of the county officials, the laws that govern their office, and the manner in which they carry out their duties.

Home, community, city, State, and national governments will also be studied in ensuing years. The project is open to any club which desires to undertake it.

A Pageant of One World

Produced by

Wisconsin Homemakers

"WE cannot have anything for nothing, not even man's heritage.

"Rights and liberties get rusty if we don't use them—and the free may again become slaves."

That's what an audience of about 1,000 was told when Green County, Wis., homemakers' clubs presented their original pageant, "One Flag—One World."

The play offered glimpses into the everyday lives of "your neighbors of all races" and was written "to emphasize the high hope for peace for which the United Nations flag stands."

"The blueprint of world peace has been written," a narrator declared in the climax.

"Fifty-nine nations today have agreed to build a home where our children shall live in freedom from fear and want.

"The words of some citizens, the actions of others have made our world as it is today. It will be the same tomorrow. It will be up to you. . . ."

A cast of more than 50 took part in the costumed pageant, written by Mrs. George Abplanalp of the State Line Troopers Homemakers Club. The play was the feature of the fifteenth annual Green County Homemakers Achievement Day program.

It was inspired by the homemakers' national project, sewing UN flags and distributing them to schools so both homemakers and school children will learn more about the UN.

The pageant told the story of one homemaker who spent an afternoon helping to sew one of the flags, and then took a trip in imagination to see how women live in eight other countries around the world.

The "trip" included visits to the family of Ole Anderson, a glass

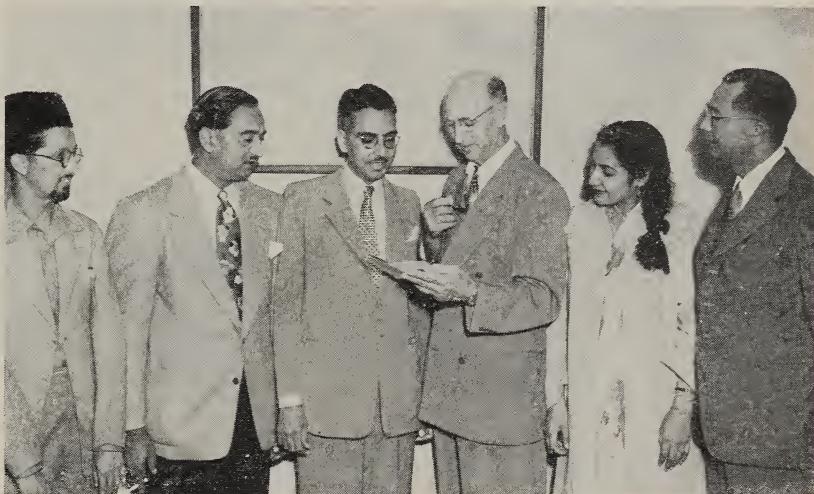
blower of Orresfors, Sweden, where preparations were under way for a wedding; the Van Hootens of Holland who raise tulips for a living; a Japanese farmer's home; the thatched hut of an Indian family; a fete for tourists in Hawaii; a native village in India; a carnival

in Brazil, and a farm field in Russia where—

"The mass of people are tired. They are increasingly cynical and disillusioned. They are apprehensive about a war, as we are . . . Russia respects power, but its common people, like ours, do not want war."

Women from eight homemakers' centers in the county participated in the pageant. They made their own authentic costumes and props, including the Brodhead group's Dutch windmill that really worked and the Nation's first homemaker's flag, embroidered by Mrs. Frank Schiesser the general chairman.

Pakistan Visitors Here



AFTER a year in Pakistan Karl Knaus, formerly field agent, Central States, returned this summer. A group of high-ranking government officials interested in establishing an Extension Service in Pakistan arrived a week later. Left to right, they are: Mohammad Amin Bhatti; Mohammed Said Khan; M. H. Sufi; Karl Knaus, chief of the Point Four Mission in Pakistan, who is helping to plan their activities in this country; Mrs. Akhlaq Hussain, and Abdul Mubin Chowdhury.

Agriculture is a basic industry in Pakistan and occupies more than 85 percent of the 77 million people.

A new republic, the Government is vitally interested in improving the education and welfare of the masses of the people. The Extension Service as they have learned about it from Karl Knaus, seems to meet their need, and they are anxious to get an Extension Service under way as soon as possible. They have sent to this country the group shown above to gain the knowledge and skill for establishing such a service. The States they are visiting are Ohio, Missouri, Tennessee, Alabama, Kansas, California, New York, Indiana, Florida, Louisiana, Arkansas, Colorado, Mississippi, and Michigan.

Public Relations in the 4-H Clubs

ED SLETTOM

Former Rice County Agricultural Agent,
Now Deputy Commissioner, Minnesota State Department of Agriculture,
Dairy and Food

BECAUSE 4-H work has made a good impression, it is recognized as the greatest out-of-school movement in the world. We cannot rest on these laurels, however. We must continue to make good impressions and hereby improve our public relations if we are to serve effectively. Each of us, of course, has a different definition of public relations. My own personal idea is that "It is what we do as an individual or as a group to leave an impression in other people's minds." That impression may be good or bad. We want the type of public relations which will leave a good impression.

What must we do to have good public relations?

We must sell club members on using their talents to reap full benefit of 4-H work. A satisfied member is a good public relations agent. We must get 4-H members to put effort into their individual projects and activities and into their group activities.

We must sell parents on club work. Parent interest can either make or break club work. They must know that their cooperation is needed. Of course it is difficult to do this individually. Perhaps a word injected here and there that club work functions best when there is parent cooperation and a fuller explanation of this cooperation may help. "Lads' and Dads' Night," "Mother and Daughter Dinner," or "Parents' Night" and a short talk of appreciation to the parents for the fine cooperation they have exhibited is effective. Even then the disinterested parent may not show up. Then the only effective way is to talk directly with the parents. During fall enrollment this can be done under the guise of

making a trip to the farm to find out what project Johnny or Susie might take which would fit into the farm plan as a whole.

Another solution which is used in most clubs is to hold meetings in the homes. If each family takes its turn in serving, parents can't very well miss that one meeting. So there are ways of getting the foot in the door. Have you ever heard mothers say: "You know I think the parents get as much fun out of 4-H as the young people themselves." The fun they refer to is genuine fellowship. There is nothing I like better in a community than to see a bunch of dads and mothers cementing friendship and promoting community harmony as they do at 4-H Club meetings. That's the best public relations you can get. It's the closest public you have and the one that can make or break your 4-H Club.

We must sell the community on 4-H work. Many folks have no contact with the club because they have no children of club age. Some are prospective 4-H families. Some of them have children who are beyond club age. They must be educated regarding 4-H work. Here is where group activity and individual responsibility come into the picture. Now how can we sell our community on club work?

First, every club should have a reporter. After each club meeting the club reporter should either send a report of its meeting to the local paper or to the county extension office. In Rice County, Minn., no report has gone unpublished unless it was lost. Editors like those reports because names are involved and because the news is local.

Second, you might put on a pro-

gram for the local farm organization. There is talent available in every club. Add to this music, the 4-H pledge, and the pledge of allegiance, and you have a program. Or you might have your club members give the demonstration they did so well at achievement day. One of the club members might tell about the projects members are taking and the activities of the club.

If you have a good demonstration team on quality milk, why not have them perform at the local creamery meeting? Club members not only will be teaching good approved practices but also will be doing good public relations work.

Carrying on a community project builds good public relations. Maybe the local school yard could use a good windbreak. This project is worth while to the community and at the same time is good public relations.

Perhaps the 4-H Clubs can sponsor a benefit party at the community building or the town hall. The money is to be used for the Polio Foundation, Red Cross, Crippled Children's Society, or some other worth-while project. Community-minded leaders look with favor on a youth organization which is interested in such projects.

In our public relations program we must be careful in promoting



The county fair and a good demonstration
county and

certain activities to raise funds for the club treasury. Every community is different, and what may work well in one place may not do well in another. In general, we want to keep our 4-H members doing constructive things and to avoid environments associated with less constructive programs. We don't want to exploit our membership just because our boys and girls are an organized group in the community and because they can provide cheap labor in promoting something for financial gain for a single concern or individual.

Tours will help your relations in the community if properly handled. On these tours we should be orderly and careful. Speeding up or down the road is not good public relations. An adult leader should be in the lead car and thereby hold down speed. Needless tramping in gardens doesn't set too well, either.

We must sell the county and State on 4-H Club work. Anything you do here to better 4-H Club work will also be good public relations.

Local leaders taking an active part in county-wide activities help their club. Here club members step outside their own community to meet boys and girls attending different schools throughout the county. So don't overlook the value of

(Continued on page 140)



The first step is to sell the club member on his own talents.



Club meetings in the members' homes enlist parent interest.



ion team can stimulate interest in the the State.



Community projects, such as landscaping the church, bring the work of 4-H Clubs to the attention of the community.

Clothing Leaders Trained Successfully

JESSIE E. HEATHMAN, Assistant Extension Editor
University of Illinois, College of Agriculture

WHY the growing interest in making children's clothing?

Illinois mothers say that ready-to-wear garments are relatively costly, and by doing the job at home they save money.

They get better-quality material for the money they have to spend; they utilize "make over" materials; they adapt the design of the garment to the age and needs of the child. Precision techniques speed the sewing job.

Interest has increased steadily since the end of World War II. Edna Gray, extension clothing specialist, is in direct charge of the project, and through her teaching and the assistance of the county home advisers, local leaders have done outstanding work.

Last year in one county alone, 153 women made more than 1,200 new garments for children. In counties where the work had been started earlier, interest continued to increase. Local leaders repeated the lessons for new groups of women. Some women even developed sufficient skill to earn money by sewing.

Reports from some of the counties read like a ready-to-wear inventory—6 blouses for Mary, 4 dresses, 3 slips, 4 pairs of panties for Susie, 4 shirts for Junior.

Along with the reports on "number of garments made" come comments such as "For \$2 I made a dress that would match a \$7 ready-to-wear one in material, workmanship, and design." "I save time since I learned to cut two garments at once. I add interest by varying the trimming." "I save many dollars by making garments for my daughter from 'used' materials."

In setting up the project in a county, two training schools are usually scheduled. Mothers of young

children are selected to serve as local leaders. They have a keen interest in the work and have considerable knowledge of the clothing needs of children.

In order to set the stage for the project, home advisers are asked to give local leaders information on fabrics, textures, colors, and fabric designs suitable for children. This is a phase of children's clothing too often neglected and one which calls for more attention.

To the first training school local leaders are asked to bring pre-shrunk and straightened cotton—material with warp at right angles to the filling—for two girls' dresses. In addition, they are asked to bring their sewing tools and if possible a machine. In some counties local stores have supplied the sewing machines and other large equipment.

In order to simplify the teaching, the same make and number of pattern is used by all leaders. One is selected which is available in sizes from 4 to 12, and the dresses are given variety by the decorative finishes used.

Factory Efficiency Methods

Miss Gray demonstrates the step-by-step procedure—starting with the importance of checking the grain of material, placing of the pattern on the cloth to cut two garments at the same time, and marking of the garment pieces. Factory methods are used from planning the order of work to the specific construction techniques demonstrated. Each step is completed on both garments before the next step is started—stay stitching, seams, hems.

At the end of the first training school home work is assigned. Leaders are asked to return to the sec-



Local leaders help each other.

ond session with the blouse ready for the sleeve, the sleeve ready to be placed, and the skirt seamed and hemmed ready to be gathered and joined to the waist.

Machine-made buttonholes are used. Leaders have their choice of making them or taking the garment to a professional to have the work done.

Doing While Learning

Each leader is asked to meet with her local group at least once before she returns for the second training school. She is to practice until the new method of work is easy for her to demonstrate. In addition, she is to discuss techniques and teaching methods with members of her group.

Is "precision" sewing important? Can the information learned in making children's clothing be turned to good account in sewing for adults? The answer is "yes" on both counts. In talking with local leaders and with women who have received instruction from local leaders, the response is heartening.

One local leader, mother of two children, 8 and 4 years of age, reported that she makes garments for both of her children from grown-ups' clothing that is either out of style or is worn in spots.

She says that knowing how to cut a complete pattern from the "purchased" pattern has made it possible for her to utilize "make over"

materials and short lengths of cloth. To make the complete pattern, she places the "purchased" pattern on paper and cuts the pattern as she would cut the garment. This complete pattern is not used for cutting the garment but is used for planning the placing of the pattern pieces on the material and for planning the necessary piecing.

Using the cloth guide, machine basting and stay stitching are techniques which have saved her time and given her better fitting, more attractive garments.

Another homemaker, mother of two boys, says that she saves time by cutting several pairs of overalls and several shirts at one time; also that she has learned techniques for difficult-to-sew materials such as corduroy and heavy wool which she uses for her sons' jackets and top coats.

Timesavers

Many women report that they are amazed to find how much can be accomplished in a short time with good methods and accuracy. They made special mention of stay stitching, facings, the use of the cloth guide, and good-looking hems put in by machine.

One homemaker—not a mother of young children—says she has adapted all of the information gained at the classes to making garments for herself. According to her, "the method is the same, only the size of the garment pieces is different."

Other women report that they have gained valuable information in the use and the fitting of patterns. For example, one who frequently makes jodhpurs reported using the precision method with a pattern which had failed to fit when cut and sewed by her old method. The second pair fitted perfectly with no pattern alteration or garment fitting.

A local leader—and an experienced one—says: "Even though all unit members are not interested in clothing construction, I never gave a lesson when the women were more interested than the one on children's clothing. They asked for more help and more information."

A New Angle on Leader Training

LEONARD J. HILL, 4-H Club Agent, Berrien County, Mich.

FIVE county 4-H Club agents in a panel discussion at the annual conference set us all to thinking about the value of adequate leader training.

These 5 agents had all tried out the leader-training outline given to us by Nevels Pearson, assistant State 4-H Club leader at last year's conference. Agent Floyd Hicks, as moderator, started off by saying that it was the consensus of those on the panel that the reason leaders drop out of club work was because they do not get enough training to handle the job, thus making it necessary to train 4,100 new leaders each year.

Discussion brought out that each of the panel members had followed the recommended plan in holding five meetings, but some had spaced them a week apart and some had held them monthly. All had opened the training meetings to both old and new leaders. Agent William P. Kirkpatrick of Midland County reported that some of the older leaders had asked more questions than the new ones. He felt that older leaders had been in the work long enough to realize just what some of the problems were and hence were more eager for help.

The training meetings were generally about 2 hours long. Some agents used the full 2 hours and then had refreshments and a get-acquainted half hour. Others broke it up with a breathing spell halfway through the meeting. The average attendance was 35 with a majority of new leaders.

In summing up the panel discussion, Agent Hicks said the first meeting is an important one. It should be well planned and make the leaders feel that they want to come to the remaining ones. All meetings should be carried on just the same as in a local club with a

pledge to the flag and a 4-H Club pledge to open the meeting.

Although it was acknowledged that leaders need all of the information they can get, yet it was possible to overload the meeting with too much material. This was especially true of the first meeting. The panel recommended a question box at the meetings, as some leaders are hesitant in asking questions before a group.

Those of us who took part in this discussion echoed a statement by Club Leader Pearson in his outline which many of us had used: "How often we ask a person to be a 4-H local leader and do nothing to prepare him for the job, and how often leaders are completely in the dark as to what their job is. So is it any wonder that we have difficulty finding and keeping leaders?"

Agent Helps New Settlers

More help for new settlers in the Columbia Basin of the State of Washington will be available with the appointment of a new agent, Mel A. Hagood, in Grant County. He will serve as the leader of a group of several agents, giving specific help to new settlers as they arrive in the Basin area. He will work with George Delaney and other members of the present Grant County Extension Service staff.

Other new agents will be employed as various blocks of land come under irrigation and will work directly with settlers in those blocks. An attempt is being made to place these men on the area in advance of actual arrival of settlers to give them a chance to become acquainted with the jobs. New agents will receive a special 6 months' training in the field.

What the Program Means to Me

(Continued from page 131)

sion are. We had pork roast for dinner one day, and as we sat down to eat I was rather surprised to hear one of my boys say: "Oh, I learned all about how to prepare a pork roast last night. You're supposed to take the bone out. Then you fill that cavity with dressing, and it should be roasted in an uncovered pan." That same week we had frankfurters. The family was late in coming for dinner, so when the frankfurters were served they had large cracks in them. I can still hear the tragic voice of another of my boys when he said: "Oh, you cooked them too long. When you cook them until they bu'st all the juice runs out." These boys belong to the Rural Youth Group and had been in attendance at a meat cooking demonstration.

Our family has never been as food conscious as they've been this past winter. We've had a lot of fun discussing these food projects; and it seems to me there has been an increased feeling of mutual interest, understanding, and fellowship in our home. As a result, haven't I the right to expect these young people to do better work in the jobs they may have, to take more interest in their community, and to become better citizens?

Then what has the extension home program meant to my community? If my family and I have benefited, other homemakers and their families have benefited in like manner. There has been a regular wave of remodeling in our group since the lessons on home building and remodeling. One of our members even had the pleasure of moving into a brand-new home. I'm sure some of the work was inspired by the lessons in this project, and all received help from them. So our community enjoys better home living.

The home program has broadened the horizon in the community through tours conducted which are an important part of community homemaking, by open meetings such as one on descent of property, which we had this year, and by

meetings such as the one we're having today—a Home Demonstration Day Tea.

The home program has promoted the spirit of neighborliness in the community. In this day when nations are taking sides, and they all seem bent on destroying each other as well as themselves, this spirit of neighborliness is of paramount importance. Unless we can find the way to world fellowship, we are going to continue to bring up our sons to fight wars.

Had you been at our last group meeting, you would have heard comments such as these: Haven't you liked the lessons we've had this year? . . . We'll miss these get-togethers. . . . Do you think any other group has as much fun at their meetings as we do at ours? . . . Let's plan a picnic for next summer and take our husbands along.

If any project has contributed to better family living, if it has stimulated the thinking, if it has broadened the horizon, or if it has promoted the spirit of neighborliness, then it has accomplished something worth while for the homemaker, for her family, and for her community.

Public Relations in 4-H

(Continued from page 137)

public and radio speaking contests, rally days, play festivals, softball tournaments, and tours.

Our county fairs serve as one of our best media through which the story of 4-H work is told to the public. Not only is the county fair a good experience for our club members, but it also helps us to sell 4-H work to our own members. Inasmuch as the county fair is the showcase of 4-H work, we must do our part to let it serve us well. Our members must conduct themselves well at these events.

Booths are an excellent means of teaching approved practices and at the same time selling the public on 4-H work. In our own county we had 21 4-H booths. Both walls of our 4-H building had 6x6 booths with white background and green trim. Each booth told a story of club participation in constructive work.

Showing and expressing appreciation to the businessman and farm groups that support 4-H is only proper, but club members sometimes forget to express thanks. If the Chamber of Commerce sponsors a banquet, we should make every effort to see that either individual club members or the secretary of our clubs writes a letter of appreciation to the chamber. Let's not forget that important "thank you."

Taking an active part in National 4-H Achievement Week is another method of selling the program to the general public. During this week, appearances before civic groups by club members are effective. We started out this fall with one of our club members who attended the National 4-H Club Congress. The girl was proficient in making all types of fancy rolls. So we had her make rolls before the Rotary Club, soon the Lions Club, and then the Exchange Club. Before we knew it, 200 businessmen of the city of Faribault had seen this roll-making demonstration. It was an interesting program attracting much favorable comment. In addition, the girl received valuable experience in demonstrating. Not all clubs may have such an attraction, but surely our club members and adult leaders could discuss certain phases of club work at many meetings.

Radio programs are very effective, too, in telling folks about club work. Interviews at club meetings add a touch of informality and let the people know how meetings are conducted and what is done at the average 4-H meeting.

Finally, every event in which 4-H Clubs participate, whether county, State, or national, is in itself public relations. But public relations are incidental to the activity itself. It is the good that is done for the boy or girl that counts. But at the same time the conduct of club members and the conduct of the event itself leave impressions, good or bad. The same can be said for each of us individually. We try each day to do and to say those things that cause people to think well of us. They are happier for it, and we are, too.

Science Flashes



What's in the offing on scientific research, as seen by Ernest G. Moore
Agricultural Research Administration

School Lunch Time

August is back-to-school month in many rural areas of the United States. This means the lines will be forming at school cafeterias, where, according to our nutrition scientists, children should eat at least one-third of their vitamins, protein, and other food nutrients. To learn how well school cafeteria lunches are meeting these recommendations, our nutritionists studied 70 plate lunches taken from the cafeteria line in 15 schools. Thirty-two of the lunches had enough vitamin C, but two-thirds did not have enough thiamine. The study gave new evidence that children who refuse milk deny themselves an important food. Without milk as a beverage, 55 of the 70 meals would have been below recommended levels of protein, 60 below in riboflavin, and 69 below in calcium. With milk, the meals fully met the need for all these nutrients. The study brought out the need for continuous attention to recipes, menu planning, good cooking, and careful general management if a school is to serve economical, attractive, nutritious meals that the children will pick up from the cafeteria line—and eat.



New Test for Overheated Corn

Overheated corn is difficult to process for starch production. Safe drying conditions are known but are often ignored, and at least one large corn processor has refused to purchase corn from a county in which a drier was known to be operating. As the mechanical corn picker has come into common use, more and more corn requires artificial drying before storage. Scientists at our Northern Regional Laboratory have developed a simple chemical test that shows when corn has been damaged by overheating. The test requires no specialized equipment and can be made in about 30 minutes by the prospective purchaser. Thus, the processor can buy with confidence, the operator can keep closer check on the drying process, and the farmer whose corn has been properly dried should not have difficulty selling his corn. The test is already in use.

Mystery of the Housefly

Will we have to go back to some of the old methods of controlling houseflies and other insects? That is a big question and a serious one wherever scientists are studying resistance of insects to insecticides. The problem is not new. As far back as 1914 the phenomenon came into prominence when A. L. Melander, speaking of the San Jose scale, raised his now famous question "Can insects become resistant to sprays?" The subject has come into much wider prominence, however, since DDT-resistant houseflies and mosquitoes were reported a few years ago. Although not very much is known yet about how resistance is developed, we are getting information that may prove highly useful. Here are some high lights of research with houseflies:

1. Flies that are highly resistant

to one insecticide may be fairly resistant to other insecticides of widely different structure. If the resistance is low, they are usually resistant only to closely related insecticides.

2. Strains have been developed in the laboratory that have resistance to all insecticides tried on them—including those of plant origin as well as synthetic organic materials. Wild strains—except in rare instances—are not nearly as resistant as strains developed in the laboratory.

3. The degree of resistance varies considerably from generation to generation.

4. Once flies have developed resistance to any insecticide, they become resistant to other insecticides at a much faster pace.

Bad News for Cotton Insects

Insects such as thrips, spider mites, and leafworms, which attack cotton early in the season, cause tremendous damage to the cotton crop. ARA scientists have been doing intensive research on this problem for the last 3 years and report some promising results. Dieldrin, toxaphene, and aldrin controlled thrips and hastened fruiting and maturity. The accelerated maturity is important, because earlier harvesting produces higher-grade cotton. Controlling the thrips and other early-season insects increased the yield 5 to 20 percent. Small amounts of parathion, metacide, and tetraethyl pyrophosphate controlled all kinds of spider mites. This is a definite advantage, because sulfur dusts used in the past at rates of 20 to 30 pounds per acre failed to control some species. The discovery makes spider mite control available at only a fraction of the cost of old, effective methods.

Have you read...



NEW WAYS TO BETTER MEETINGS.

Bert and Frances Strauss, *The Viking Press*, 18 E. 48th Street, New York, N. Y., March 1951, 177 pp.

● This book offers practical help to people who lead and attend meetings. It should be a useful reference book for extension workers and local leaders. It should also be an excellent handbook for use in Extension summer schools and in undergraduate and graduate Extension courses.

Some of the material in the book is based directly on research; on results of experiments and tests which social scientists have been making in a particular field of human relations. Other parts of the book come from experience obtained by making practical application of research results. A third major source of material has been devices developed and successfully used in training groups or in helping groups to improve themselves.

Bert Strauss is a management engineer currently with the Army in Washington during the day. He leads discussion groups and teaches evening courses on how meetings can use the abilities of all members. Both Mr. and Mrs. Strauss are convinced that people meeting together can accomplish much.

There are excellent chapters on "What's Wrong With Our Meetings?" "Can the Chairman Stop Being Boss?" "Don't Blame the Expert," "The Large Meeting," and "The Working Conference."

The chapter on "Don't Blame the Expert" should be of help in making annual Extension Conferences more productive. District agents who constantly plan working conferences should get much help from the chapter, "The Working Conference."

The book is filled with many

practical examples. In each chapter the authors describe some kind of a meeting which brings out the points they are discussing. These examples help to clarify and add interest.

In the chapter "Stimulating Change" there is an excellent check list for analyzing the situation in order to change it.

In the appendixes a few pages are given over to practical aids and devices. They include a sample form for a recorder's record, an observer's report, some post-meeting reaction sheets, summaries, and a training plan for conference leadership teams.

A selected bibliography is added with references on "group discussion," "role playing," and "value and uses of participation." The book is easy to read, personalized, and well illustrated.—*M. L. Wilson, Director of Extension Work.*

Selected Rural Fiction in 1950

Compiled by Caroline Sherman, Bureau of Agricultural Economics

● Among those on this list are experienced authors of recognized success and eye-opening new writers to be watched for in future. That fortunate combination is a healthy sign in this school of fiction. Any year that brings Conrad Richter back with a new book is noteworthy. This latest volume completes his trilogy, the perfected parts of which have come at 5-year intervals and have been noted in these annual selections.

SWIFTWATER. Paul Annixter. A. A. Wyn, Inc., New York. 256 pp.

● Infused with thrilling descriptions of the Canadian North Woods, its animal life, and dazzling or desolate winters. Permeated by the

silent devotion of woodsman and woods-dedicated son, the last of the hunter-trapper tradition. The boy succeeds beyond all hopes in getting a wildlife sanctuary established.

CHRISTMAS WITHOUT JOHNNY.

Gladys Hasty Carroll. Macmillan Co., New York. 230 pp.

● A misunderstood child, at home and at school. Psychological aspects are sound, and the little tale is not too sentimental. As this Maine writer is well-known, especially to rural readers, both parents and teachers may wish to take note.

GRANT OF KINGDOM.

Harvey Ferguson. William Morrow & Co., New York. 311 pp.

● Panoramic view of the evolution of a romantic slice of New Mexico by a proved writer of the Southwest. Masterful strokes change this country from an unexplored reach with vast natural resources, owned by a Spanish don who never saw it, through ownership and occupation by a born pioneer developer, and on to an intricate financial proposition controlled by eastern capital. The nature and ways of its people change with the circumstances.

THE NEWEL POST.

Rachel Ann Fish. Coward-McCann, New York. 376 pp.

● In northern New York in the 1920's and 30's this entrenched American family values country, landed possessions, family traditions, and position in the community beyond the comprehension of the rootless girl who marries an eldest son and finds an endless series of hard lessons ahead.

THE HOME PLACE.

Fred Gipson. Harper & Bros., New York. 248 pp.

● Conservation farming, in a Texas area being laid waste by soil mining, and a simple and appealing family life are the themes. A young father brings his motherless sons back to his old and vacated home to give them the open-country upbringing he believes best. Conscientious rather than talented writing. (*List to be Continued*)

About People . . .



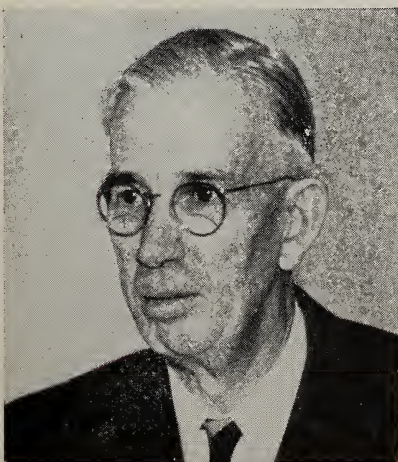
● On June 30, **ANDREW W. HOPKINS** retired after 38 years of service as a staff member of the University of Wisconsin. At that time his colleagues paid tribute to his accomplishments at two affairs. The members of his department of agricultural journalism paid personal tribute to his long-time inspired leadership at an informal dinner. After that, he was a guest of honor at a reception attended by his friends and associates.

BRYANT KEARL, who has been acting chairman of the department of agricultural journalism at Wisconsin since July 1950 has been chosen as Andy's successor.

● Looking to his full retirement when he reaches the age of 70 on July 9, 1952, **A. A. JEFFREY** of Missouri asked to be relieved of his administrative duties in order to have time for special work. He will, however, remain on the staff on a three-quarter time basis as associate editor.

Mr. Jeffrey has been at the helm of editorial work in Missouri for more than 31 years.

He is succeeded by **OID U. BAY**,



A. A. Jeffrey

who has been associate agricultural editor in Missouri since 1948.

● **MRS. AGNES W. WATTS**, county home demonstration agent, and the home demonstration women of Alexander County, N. C., recently received national recognition by the National Broadcasting Company. They had much to do with building the model hospital and health center at Taylorsville, and the NBC story told how local health problems can be solved through community action.

● **MINNIE PRICE**, for 28 years home demonstration leader in Ohio, retired in June. Commenting on her retirement, Director C. M. Ferguson stated: "Miss Price pioneered in the field of extension education. . . . Under her inspiration and guidance her staff developed teaching procedures which made it possible for a larger number of people to benefit from the program. . . ."

Miss Price went to Ohio in 1921 as assistant State home demonstration leader from Hampden County, Mass., where she was home demonstration agent for 6 years. In 1950 she received the U.S.D.A. Superior Service Award in recognition of meritorious performance of duty.

● Members of the Marcia Albertson Home Demonstration Club, oldest in Pasquotank County, N. C., have invested 4 years' savings in a building and site in Salem township and are now working toward renovation of the structure into a modern clubhouse. The club, which is now under the direction of County Home Demonstration Agent Frances B. Winslow, was named in memory of **MARCIA ALBERTSON**, first home agent in Pasquotank County. It is the outgrowth of the Dry Ridge Club which she organized in 1919 and the Newbegun Club which were consolidated during the depression years and given the present name.

● **MARGARET A. FLYNN**, extension secretary in Middletown, Conn., who retired June 30 after 31 years of service, was guest of honor at a testimonial picnic July 28. In further recognition of her many years of service, the State Legislature granted her a pension of \$1,500 a year.

Increase in Farm Building

(Continued from page 132)

which would lessen danger. Some of these would include:

1. Use of fire-protective construction in new buildings
2. Use of fire-resistant coverings for roofs and walls of buildings to be repaired or remodeled
3. Proper location of buildings with relation to prevailing winds to reduce chances of fire spreading
4. Discouraging the location of buildings close to the road, particularly those in which flammable materials are stored
5. Cleaning up rubbish
6. The importance of plowed strips—other firebreaks to separate fields with dry, inflammable grass or crops from the farmstead
7. More on-farm storage of grain and feeds would also help if sabotage becomes a serious consideration. Large central storages make the easiest targets for saboteurs, whereas a great many smaller on-farm storages would make large-scale destruction less easy.

The third field for emphasis which includes proper design of structures for the safe storage of feed crops is also important. Storage losses in grains and hay are still too high, and buildings designed to make possible the use of artificial drying equipment, and in the Southeast of fumigation, should be given serious attention.

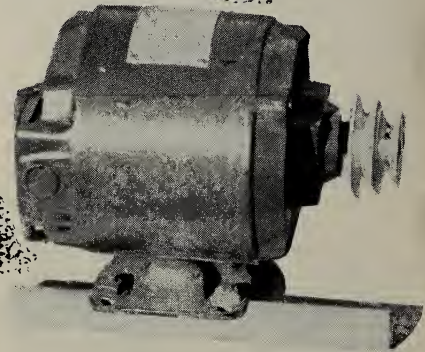
FARM PRODUCTION GOALS ARE UP

WHAT IS THE ANSWER?

Farming electrically is one solution. For example:
One kilowatt hour of electricity can:

- Pump 1,000 gallons of water
- Milk 30 cows
- Grind 200 bushels of grain
- Shell 30 bushels of corn
- Run a tool grinder 4 hours, or
- Cut 1 ton of silage, elevate it into a 30-foot silo
- And a 1 horsepower motor can do as much work in an hour as the average man can do in a day.

All along the 1,000,000 miles of power lines built by REA borrowers, farmers are putting kilowatts into overalls. It's good business for the farmer and the Nation. But electricity as a production tool is new to thousands of farmers. They want and need information on its practical application. Extension workers can help in this job.



FARM LABOR SUPPLY IS DOWN